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HOUSE BILL 1542

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State of Washington

52nd Legislature

1991 Regular Session

By Representatives Cooper, Moyer, Braddock, Ferguson, Leonard, May, Dorn, Riley, Prentice, H. Myers, Hargrove, Ogden, Peery, Morris, Heavey, Sprenkle, Brekke, Cantwell, Haugen, Jones, Van Luven, Ludwig, Scott and Winsley.

Read first time January 31, 1991. Referred to Committees on Health Care\Appropriations.

1 AN ACT Relating to the expansion of private community programs for  
2 adults with developmental disabilities; adding a new section to chapter  
3 71A.12 RCW; and declaring an emergency.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 71A.12 RCW  
6 to read as follows:

7 (1) The legislature finds that adults with developmental  
8 disabilities who do not receive publicly funded residential,  
9 employment, or other appropriate day program services do not reach  
10 their full potential. Often, students with developmental disabilities  
11 who leave school are unable to find employment or other appropriate day  
12 program services. The waiting list which develops for adults with  
13 developmental disabilities seeking services causes the deterioration of

1 their quality of life and represents a waste of public resources and  
2 human potential.

3 (2) Effective July 1, 1991, the secretary of the department of  
4 social and health services shall expand private community programs for  
5 adults with developmental disabilities to ensure that all such persons  
6 graduating from secondary school are provided appropriate residential,  
7 employment, or other appropriate day program services.

8 (3) The secretary of the department of social and health services  
9 shall expand private community services to adults with developmental  
10 disabilities to ensure that all such persons currently on waiting lists  
11 for services shall be provided appropriate residential, employment, or  
12 other appropriate day program services by June 30, 1995.

13 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** This act is necessary for the immediate  
14 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the  
15 state government and its existing public institutions, and shall take  
16 effect immediately.